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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SERIAL NO.: (International Appn No. PCT/GB03/00306)

FILED: Herewith (Intl. Filing Date 23 January 2003)

TITLE: TREE SHELTER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of the present application, and prior to an initial Official Action on this matter, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Please note that the following amendments apply to the attached specification and claims labeled for U.S. filing. This combined application incorporates the original application and any annex to the International Application in the proper order, including the correct original and substitute pages, claims and drawing sheets.

Preliminary Amendment: SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

In Paragraphs [0035] to [0040], please amend the paragraphs as follows:

[0035] The present invention will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings, ~~in which:~~

[0036] Fig. 1 is a top plan view of an unrolled tree shelter according to the present invention with a portion of an outer resin covering removed revealing an inner fibrous mat;

[0037] Fig. 1a is a cross-sectional view through a portion of the shelter along the line X-X in Fig. 1;

[0038] Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the shelter shown in Fig. 1 when formed into a roll;

[0039] Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a second embodiment of tree shelter according to the present invention; ~~and~~

[0040] Fig. 4 is a schematic view of the shelter shown in Fig. 2 when in use.